

Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of H. Res. 212.

MISSION VIEJO, CA,
August 19, 1998.

Congressman RON PACKARD,
Fairfax, VA.

DEAR BROTHER PACKARD: I write to you first as your role of a father and a friend of my family's and second, as a Congressman of the United States. I write in hopes of your understanding and support in a very real and tragic problem facing the youth in our country.

My parents are Val and Diane Mortensen from Carlsbad. I am their second daughter, Lisa, and I grew up with many of your children as well as your nieces and nephews in Carlsbad, California Stake.

Recently, our family suffered an incredibly painful loss. Our oldest child, Justin, three weeks before his sixteenth birthday, went to a park near our home and shot himself in the head. He suffered brain death shortly afterward, and we lost him that night, May 4, 1998.

Justin was a sweet natured, polite, kind-hearted, and well liked youth, who lived with clinical depression and ADD (Attention Deficit Disorder). Despite several years of medical and psychological treatments and antidepressant medications, it seemed the pain won out, and Justin decided to take his own life; I'm sure in hopes of relief.

As a parent you can imagine the pain, guilt, questions, and terrible sense of loss we are living with day to day. It is an agonizing and heart-breaking experience that will affect the rest of our lives. Almost more terrible than the act itself, is the extreme inner pain and loneliness that I felt in the moments preceding his death. As the Savior, he was alone in his extreme pain, and I, the parent could not staunch it. It is so incredibly sad!

Almost immediately after Justin's death I knew in my heart of hearts that I would somehow and in some way devote my time to increase awareness of depression and also teenage suicide. This is my first attempt to help. This is how you can help.

There is an existing foundation called the Light For Life Foundation of America, based in Westminster, Colorado. They have a Yellow Ribbon program that has been effective in the prevention and awareness of suicide.

Youth suicide is the "fastest growing killer of youth today" according to federal officials and we need your interest and support to help stop this epidemic. Statistics show that 95% of all suicides are preventable with proper prevention and awareness. Even though the rates are increasing every year, there are programs that are working and one of the most effective is the Yellow Ribbon Program of the Light For Life Foundation of America.

Started in September 1994 with the suicide of 17-year-old Michael Emme, the program has spread across all 50 states and many foreign countries and is already credited officially with SAVING MORE THAN 1,000 LIVES as of September 1997, and the numbers are growing. Youth and adults all over this country are starting the programs in their schools, churches, and communities and are helping to form a network of caring, willing people who realize that not only does it take a "village to raise a child, but it takes a village to SAVE a child" and they are saving precious lives.

This letter is a request for recognition of a "Yellow Ribbon Youth Suicide Awareness and Prevention Week" to be designated on 20-26 September, 1998.

Will you designate, or ask your agency, to proclaim this week officially and to contact the Light For Life Foundation of America

for more information on how you personally and officially can help save lives? This proclamation is being designated throughout the United States and Canada already. Never before has the opportunity to do something so simple been so effective. Simply knowing that it is okay to ask for help and that people are willing to listen has been credited with many saved lives.

Brother Packard, thank you for your precious time—in reading this letter and hopefully in supporting my request for an official suicide prevention week in your jurisdiction.

Enclosed please find the Yellow Ribbon Card that was made in Justin's memory, and of which 450+ were distributed at his memorial service. Also, a recent photograph of Justin and a small verse I wrote about him the day following his death.

Please contact the Light For Life Foundation of America and tell them, of your intent to proclaim September 20-26, 1998 "Yellow Ribbon Youth Suicide Awareness and Prevention Week". (See addresses below.)

Further, if you need to speak with me, or if I can in some way be of support to any family in a similar situation, please call me at (949) 472-8363.

How wonderful to possess the truth of the gospel in these Latter-days and enjoy the knowledge and blessings of eternal families. To know that Justin is in the arms of our Savior's love is the sustaining hope that lifts our hearts.

Most Sincerely,

LISA M. DOVE.

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge support for House Resolution 212.

This issue is important to every family with children and to every family that has suffered the loss of a loved one through suicide.

This resolution recognizes that suicide is a national problem. And it encourages that the nation undertake suicide prevention efforts.

Mr. Speaker, it is estimated that 750,000 people attempt suicide each year. These attempts are traumatic not only for the individual but also for family and friends who surround him or her.

Just as tragic, more than 31,000 lives annually are lost to suicide. It may be hard to believe, but that is even more than homicide.

In fact, suicide is the ninth leading cause of all death in the U.S. It is the third leading cause of death for young people. And it is on the rise.

I hope that this resolution will help focus attention on this tragedy—and will lead to action in our homes and our communities to save young and old lives alike from suicide.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 212.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 4567

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 4567, as my name was placed on this legislation without my knowledge or consent.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Sununu). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan? There was no objection.

ESTABLISHING DESIGNATIONS FOR UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE BUILDINGS

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4052) to establish designations for United States Postal Service buildings located in Coconut Grove, Opa Locka, Carol City, and Miami, Florida, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4052

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. WILLIAM R. "BILLY" ROLLE POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The United States Postal Service building located at 3191 Grand Avenue in Coconut Grove, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "William R. 'Billy' Rolle Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the building referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "William R. 'Billy' Rolle Post Office Building".

SEC. 2. HELEN MILLER POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The United States Postal Service building located at 550 Fisherman Street in Opa Locka, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Helen Miller Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the building referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Helen Miller Post Office Building".

SEC. 3. ESSIE SILVA POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The United States Postal Service building located at 18690 N.W. 37th Avenue in Carol City, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Essie Silva Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the building referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Essie Silva Post Office Building".

SEC. 4. ATHALIE RANGE POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The United States Postal Service building located at 500 North West 2d Avenue in Miami, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Athalie Range Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the building referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Athalie Range Post Office Building".

SEC. 5. GARTH REEVES, SR. POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The United States Postal Service building located at 995 North West 119th Street in Miami, Florida, shall be known and designated as the "Garth Reeves, Sr. Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the building referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Garth Reeves, Sr. Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

New York (Mr. MCHUGH) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4052 as introduced by our distinguished colleague, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK), the legislation was introduced on June 11 of 1998, and all members of the Florida delegation are original cosponsors of this legislation, as required under the committee rules.

The bill establishes designations for United States Postal Service buildings located in Coconut Grove, Opa Locka, Carol City and Miami, Florida.

Section 1 designates the United States Postal Service building located at 3191 Grand Avenue in Coconut Grove, Florida, to be known as the William R. "Billy" Rolle Post Office Building.

Section 2 designates the facility at 550 Fisherman Street in Opa Locka, Florida, to be known as the Helen Miller Post Office Building.

Section 3 designates the United States Post Office building located at 18690 Northwest 37th Avenue in Carol City, Florida, be known as the Esse Silva Post Office Building.

Section 4 designates the United States Postal Service building at 500 Northwest Second Avenue in Miami, Florida, be known as the Athalie Range Post Office Building, while section 5 designates the facility at 995 Northwest 119th Street, Miami, Florida be known as the Garth Reeves, Sr., Post Office Building.

Mr. Speaker, I would say that in keeping with the tradition of the Subcommittee on Postal Service, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK) has taken yet another step in advancing five very distinguished Americans who distinguish themselves and their communities for their hard work.

This is a bit of an unusual approach to have five designations in a single bill, but I think it is a testament to the frugality and the wisdom of the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK), a former member of the Subcommittee on Postal Service, a very valuable member and a lady who we miss dearly, but we know continues to be interested in these.

I recognize that the gentlewoman has much to say about each one of these individuals. I would only note that having reviewed the record of each one of these fine designees, I could not more highly recommend them for these designations.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution, and I want to thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH), under whom I served on the Subcommittee on Postal Service, for his guidance and leadership in understanding the postal system.

It is a very, very organized system and having worked on that committee was of tremendous help to me, and also now to have the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH), who is the ranking member of that committee, to provide guidance.

I want to thank all of those people who made it possible that we could recognize these citizens that are being recognized today in the naming of Postal Service buildings, and that many of them are unsung in terms of the large frame of this country.

I want to say to the Congress that these members are people in the community and in Florida who have blazed a trail for others to follow. Also, I want to thank the members of the Florida delegation. They unanimously supported these five post offices being designated to these outstanding citizens.

They are distinguished and, as I said, they may not be nationally known, but they are local heroes in our community, Mr. Speaker. There are post offices in this country named after certain luminaries such as John Kennedy, Dr. Martin Luther King and others, but I want to assure you that everyone in South Florida and many people in the Nation will recognize and be aware of the credentials of these five persons.

First is Billy Rolle. He is deceased. The post office that has been dedicated to him is one that is in the neighborhood where he lived. He spent 35 years teaching and coaching, not the regular youngsters, but the out-of-school youth, many of the people that other trainers and coaches may not have noticed after school, but Billy Rolle noticed them. He also taught them band, how to have their own band, how to have their own track team.

He served as an administrator in the Dade County school system for many, many years. He organized the First Annual Goombay Festival in Miami, and that festival now is known throughout the State of Florida and in the Nation for many who come to visit.

Next, the Athalie Range Post Office. She served so many years in the local Parent-Teachers Association there in Miami. She was the first African American woman to be elected and serve on the city commission in Miami, Florida.

She served as the first African American woman to serve in the cabinet in the State of Florida. She has been the recipient of so many awards, Mr. Speaker. I would say to the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) and the rest of my colleagues, I cannot enumerate the number of awards. She has dedicated herself to her community.

The next post office is to be named after Garth S. Reeves. He is a current publisher and owner of the Miami Times. This was a newspaper founded by his father in 1923. He has dedicated himself to the achievement of excellence. Just the name Reeves in the State of Florida and in the newspaper publishing establishment throughout this country is well-known.

He sits on trustee boards of three colleges located in Florida, and he has a scholarship set up in his name that provides support for the education of aspiring journalists, an outstanding example in his own name.

Esse D. Silva, the next post office, she chaired the Governmental Affairs Committee for the Miami Dade Chamber; caused many local businesspeople to be able to establish businesses and to get working capital for the businesses they established.

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She has lobbied for black businesses throughout this country and trying to build them, knowing that they provide jobs for the people who live in the inner cities of this country. She started the SunStreet Festival in Miami, Florida, to bring better businesses, and to bring certainly more admiration for the businesses on 7th Avenue, Esse D. Silva.

Helen Miller, the next post office. She became the first African American female elected to be the mayor of Opa Locka, Florida. She was the first one in Dade County to be recognized. She served on nearly 40 different nonprofit community organizations. Commissioner Miller was a motivator whose many years of political activism and political work made her the elder stateswoman of the Opa Locka and Miami-Dade political community.

I am happy, Mr. Speaker, that I am allowed, through the committee of the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) to bring the eyes of the Congress and the eyes of this country to these people. I urge my colleagues to vote for these outstanding heroes from Dade County, Florida. To have their names emboldened on the post office would mean a lot, not only to them but to their families who come after them.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK), as I knew very well she would, highlighted the many admirable achievements of these individuals from Florida. As she so eloquently stated, I would say in closing, in deriving from her experience on the committee, while often post offices or Postal Service buildings are named for individuals known to us all, for me as chairman the very special time is the opportunity that this provides us to recognize, as she put it so well, heroes in their local communities. We have at this moment five just such individuals.

I would urge all colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4052, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof), the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JUSTICE JOHN MCKINLEY FEDERAL BUILDING

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1298) to designate a Federal building located in Florence, Alabama, as the "Justice John McKinley Federal Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1298

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF JUSTICE JOHN MCKINLEY FEDERAL BUILDING.

The Federal building located at 210 North Seminary Street in Florence, Alabama, shall be known and designated as the "Justice John McKinley Federal Building".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Justice John McKinley Federal Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SUNUNU). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 1298 was introduced by Senator SHELBY on October 20, 1997, and the bill passed the Senate without amendment by unanimous consent on June 2 of this year, and a message on Senate action was sent to the House on June 3.

John McKinley was a U.S. Senator and the first United States Supreme Court Justice from the State of Alabama. A Virginian by birth, he practiced law in Kentucky. He was a self-taught lawyer. He moved to Alabama

in 1818, becoming a member of the Cypress Land Company, which was then the largest single purchaser of land in north Alabama, along with a gentleman by the name of Andrew Jackson.

In 1820, Mr. McKinley was elected to the Alabama State legislature. He then proceeded to have a long, historic and extremely distinguished public career. The State legislature elected Mr. McKinley to the U.S. Senate in 1826, where he served until 1831. He was appointed to the Supreme Court by voice vote of the Senate in September of 1837.

Mr. Speaker, our colleague, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. CRAMER), introduced a similar bill, H.R. 1804, also honoring Justice McKinley, which was cosponsored by the entire delegation from the great State of Alabama, and I want to thank him and that delegation for working with the other body, working with Senator SHELBY, and bringing us not just a deserving individual, obviously, but one who represents a great period in the history of this country, obviously a great period that continues to this day in the history of the great State of Alabama. I thank him for his efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, Senate bill 1298 introduced by Senator RICHARD SHELBY, Republican of Alabama, names a United States post office located at 210 North Seminary Street in Florence, Alabama, as the Justice John McKinley Federal Building.

Senate bill 1298 enjoys the support of a House companion bill, House Resolution 1804, sponsored by the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. ROBERT "BUD" CRAMER). Mr. McKinley served in the Alabama State Legislature, was one of the founding trustees of the University of Alabama, and served as the first United States Supreme Court Justice from Alabama.

The Alabama State congressional delegation is proud to name a post office after John McKinley.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to my colleague, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. BUD CRAMER), the author of the House version.

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, the gentlewoman from Florida, for yielding time to me.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the chairman and say that we in Alabama appreciate the attention this issue has been given here in what we hope are the last few days of this session to make sure that the House bill, H.R. 1804, is merged with S. 1298 to make sure this legislation is passed and gets to the President.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation would designate the United States Courthouse and Post Office Building in Florence, Alabama, which happens to be in my district, as the Justice John

McKinley Federal Building. The chairman and ranking member have done an excellent job in making sure is that Justice John McKinley's background and legacy is well known.

In my district, this particular piece of legislation enjoys a wide range of support within the State, the Lauderdale County Bar Association, the Florence Historical Board, the Tennessee Valley Historical Society, the Alabama State Bar, and Governor Fob James, in addition to the entire Alabama delegation. We have looked forward to this day for some time; and, Mr. Speaker, designating the United States Post Office after Justice John McKinley would be an honor befitting his contribution to Alabama, and, frankly, to this country. Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of S. 1298.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, with a closing thanks to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. CRAMER) for his leadership on this issue, I would highly recommend all of our colleagues support us in this very meritorious renaming bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1298.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof), the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JACOB JOSEPH CHESTNUT POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. MCHUGH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4516) to designate the United States Postal Service building located at 11550 Livingston Road, in Oxon Hill, Maryland, as the "Jacob Joseph Chestnut Post Office Building".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 4516

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION.

The United States Postal Service building located at 11550 Livingston Road, in Oxon Hill, Maryland, shall be known and designated as the "Jacob Joseph Chestnut Post Office Building".

SEC. 2. REFERENCES.

Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the building referred to in section 1 shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Jacob Joseph Chestnut Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. MEEK) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. MCHUGH).